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APR 10 2002

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U. S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. §132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

<i>Application Number</i>	08/714,987
<i>Filing Date</i>	September 17, 1996
<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Hugh Sharkley
<i>Group Art Unit</i>	3739
<i>Examiner Name</i>	David M. Shay
<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	17616-705

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. s 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. §1.114.		RECEIVED TC 3700 MAIL ROOM FEB 17 2002 08714987
a.	<input type="checkbox"/> Previously submitted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. <input type="checkbox"/> Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 previously filed on <i>(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)</i> ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Other 	
b.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enclosed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) iv. <input type="checkbox"/> Other 	04/15/2002 MGBREM1 00000019 232415 01 FC:179 740.00 CH 02 FC:115 110.00 CH
2. Miscellaneous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required) b. <input type="checkbox"/> Other 	
3. Fees	The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.	
a.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 23-2415 (Docket No. 17616-705 – Large Entity Fee - \$740.00) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) ii. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) – one month -- \$110.00 iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Other 	
b.	<input type="checkbox"/> Check in the amount of \$ enclosed	
c.	<input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)	

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED			
Name (Print/Type)	Kenta Suzue	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	45,145
Signature		Date	April 10, 2002

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 on the dated indicated below and addressed to: Box RCE, Commissioner For Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this date, April 10, 2002. EXPRESS MAIL LABEL: EL 778599952 US

Name (Print/Type)	Donna L. Hengst	
Signature		Date
	April 10, 2002	

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.